

January Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30, Wednesday, January 11

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, January 11 and 12

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

Dr. Joe Robinson

Subject:

"Journey Across the Roof of the World"



Dr. Joe Robinson, dedicated seeker of the unusual in travel, invites us to a close-up look at the peoples and places of the Andes from Argentina to Peru. Through the inquisitive eye of his camera we'll first marvel at the grandeur of this spine of South America as seen from far above the statue of Christ the Redeemer at the 14,000-foot pass between Chile and Argentina. From there we will bump along the sometimes elusive roads to La Paz (over twice the altitude of Denver, Colorado), then north to Cuzco and the more familiar Machu Picchu.

En route we'll wander the picturesque streets of Potosi, source of hundreds of millions of dollars of silver sent to Spain by the Conquistadores; risk damp feet as we pick our way gingerly across the reed islands of the Uros Indians on Lake Titicaca; and struggle for breath as we walk briskly across the Altiplano for a better look at the disdainful llamas wandering free along the road.

Dr. Robinson, a management consultant and part time faculty member at San Francisco State, makes a serious business of bringing back and sharing his

travel experiences to out-of-the-way places with beautifully illustrated lectures. In past programs at the Academy he has taken us through Siberia to Samarkand and Central Asia, and has driven us all the way north in Norway to the midnight sun at the North Cape. This program will highlight the Andes part of a 6,000-mile trip he made by bus across South America. For a fresh appreciation of this relatively little known part of the world, you won't want to miss

Journey Across the Roof of the World.

As usual your membership card admits you through the Cowell Hall entrance for all three meetings, and through the Wattis Hall entrance for the matinee. (The Wattis Hall entrance is closed in the evenings.) You will be asked to present your membership card at the auditorium door for the matinee presentation.

Special Exhibits

Opening January 15, is the camera art of Robert I. Gilbreath, photographs of miniature flowers in full bloom, but so tiny they are dwarfed by the point of a pin. This collection, entitled, **Unseen Flowers of the Desert** is the only one of its kind and includes over 70 full-color photographs of microscopic plants which grow only in the desert and are so small that, according to Gilbreath, "few people have ever heard of them and fewer still have ever seen them."

Unseen Flowers of the Desert will be on display in Hohfeld Gallery I through April 15.

Also opening January 15, is **Wilderness and Wildlife — The Northern Rocky Mountains**, a stunning collection of photographs by freelance photographer and filmmaker, John Stern, a native of Berkeley, California who now makes his home in western Montana. The Northern Rockies with their remote setting, rugged topography and low human population still supports a number of indigenous wildlife, and it is this subject which is captured so beautifully in color and black and white by John Stern. Through March, 1978.

Art of the First Australians continues in the Patricia Price Peterson and Atholl McBean Galleries located at the entrance to the Wattis Hall of Man. Bark paintings, sculpture, carvings and basketry tell the story of the Aboriginal culture which emerged in almost complete isolation over the past 40,000 years.

A beautifully illustrated catalogue accompanies the show and is available for purchase at the Cowell Hall Information Desk, the new Museum Shop in Cowell Hall, and at the Cashier's Booth at the entrance to Wattis Hall.

Living Arts

This month the Living Arts Program in the Wattis Hall of Man will explore music as a cultural expression with two very different musical experiences: one from the European classical tradition and the other from an Asian classical tradition.

January 14, at 3:00 p.m.

Hilda Jonas, internationally known harpsichordist and foremost Bach interpreter, will present a program of harpsichord music through the centuries. Trained under Wanda Landowska, Hilda has performed all over the world professionally. For our special program she will historically describe the cultural trends in Europe and America which gave rise to the distinct musical styles in England, France, Italy, Germany and contemporary America. Come early to see how the harpsichord is tuned and stay late to chat with Hilda after the presentation!

January 28, at 3:00 p.m.

Mimi and Lesandra, reknown interpreters of the many classical dance traditions of Asia, will present a lecture/demonstration of Bharatanatyam, the South Indian tradition of classical dance. You will have an opportunity to try out some of the dance movements as Mimi and Lesandra describe the interrelationships between South Indian art, music and dance. This presentation is part of a symposium sponsored by the Northern California Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology detailed in the "Inside the Academy" portion of this **Newsletter**.

Inside the Academy

Ethnic Music Symposium Scheduled at Academy This Month

The Northern California Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology will meet in the Trustees' Room of the Academy on Saturday, January 28, 1978 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The themes of the meeting include the museum's role in presenting musical experiences and the interrelationships between the music and other cultural expressions (dance, art, language, folklore), of a group. Anyone wishing to attend to contribute to this symposium may contact Sandy McCosker at the Academy for further information. Call 221-5100 or 221-4214.

Laserium

Vivid three-dimensional color images dance to the music of Laserium each Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the Morrison Planetarium. The original **Laserium I** can be seen on Friday, Saturday or Sunday at 9:00 p.m. **Laserium II** is presented on Friday at 7:30 and 10:30; on Saturday at 5:00 and 10:30; and on Sunday at 5:00 and 7:30. Admission to Laserium is \$3.00 for all 5:00 p.m. shows and \$3.25 for all others. Members are reminded that this is **not** a regular planetarium show and **nor** are your membership passes usable for this attraction.

Morrison Planetarium

The chemicals that form the Earth and the chemicals that form our bodies are spread throughout the universe. The chemicals of life are everywhere. Could there be then, somewhere, other beings on other planets who scan the heavens, wondering if they are alone in the universe? This is the subject of **The Loneliness Factor**, the new sky show opening January 6, at the Morrison Planetarium. As we search for life on other worlds we must wonder: What would they look like? Could they travel to the Earth? Could we understand their messages?

See **The Loneliness Factor** every weekday at 2:00 p.m., and on weekends at 12:30, 2:00 and 3:30. Evening shows are presented Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30.

Leave The Driving To Them

If you have tried to visit the Academy on Sundays, you know the inconvenience to park visitors caused by the closing of John F. Kennedy Drive to automobiles. Now partial relief will be provided by the No. 78 Golden Gate Park Shuttle Bus. This Sunday service begins near Kezar Stadium parking lot, and proceeds via Stanyan Street and Kennedy Drive to the Music Concourse in front of the Academy. Stops are at Stanyan and Frederick, Waller and Oak, McLaren Lodge, Conservatory of Flowers, 6th Avenue, 8th Avenue, de Young Museum, Japanese Tea Garden and the California Academy of Sciences. Connecting lines are the No. 5 Fulton, No. 10 Monterey, No. 21 Hayes, and Nos. 71 and 72 Haight-Noriega and Haight-Sunnett. Regular Muni fares will prevail. Valid transfers, monthly passes and Sunday holiday passes will be honored. Two buses will operated within ten-minute headways from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wanted: Whale Salvagers

The Department of Birds and Mammals of the California Academy of Sciences is compiling a list of volunteers to help salvage dead marine mammals, especially whales, which will be prepared as skeletons for research purposes. At the beach the bones are dissected out and carried, often over long distances, to a vehicle, and remains are buried.

Volunteers should be physically strong, willing to expose themselves to unpleasant sights and odors, and should be available on a moment's notice (including weekends).

If you are interested, please phone the Department at 221-5100 or 221-4214, Ext. 276.

Advance Notice of Monthly Meetings:

February 8 and 9: Stefani Hewlett on **The Birth of a Beluga Whale**

Education and Travel Notes

There are several new classes beginning in February. To register for any class please send a check for the full amount, along with your name, address and daytime telephone number to the Education Office of the Academy. Although pre-registration is encouraged, students may sign up at the front door of the Academy the first night of class, space permitting. Class fees are refundable up to the second class meeting, less a \$5.00 service charge.

Biology of Insects

February 1-March 22 — 7-9:30 p.m. (8 Wednesdays)

Academy staff member, Dr. Edward S. Ross, is an internationally known entomologist and photographer, and will share both talents with the students of this class. The biology of insects, their behavior and special adaptations to the environment, plus some identification of local insects will be included.

\$30 individuals; \$45 for families; non-members add \$10 more.

Special Lecture

Don't forget, January 9 at 8:00 p.m. is the evening to attend the Academy's Morrison Auditorium for a special free film and lecture presentation on the **Culture and Art of New Guinea**. Visiting speaker Keith Buxton is an anthropologist and international expert on the cultural heritage, wildlife and natural history of this remote and fascinating country. Mr. Buxton is an Australian who first visited New Guinea more than 20 years ago. Since then he has traveled the length of the country and has become thoroughly familiar with both the Highland area of Papua New Guinea and the Sepic River region. He will share with us his wide knowledge of the customs, culture and ceremonies of the natives.

This free special event is at 8:00 p.m., January 9. It should be of particular interest to those of you who are considering the Academy's trip to the **Islands of the Pacific and New Guinea** next August.

Advanced Taxidermy

February 15-April 5: 7-10 p.m.
(8 Wednesdays)

This "hands-on" class, limited to 10, will be devoted to carrying out the projects of the students under the tutelage of the Academy's taxidermist, Fred Funk. Prerequisites for this class are previous taxidermy experience, or completion of the introductory taxidermy class.

\$55 members; \$65 non-members.

Care of Fresh and Saltwater Aquarium Fishes

February 16-April 20: 7-9 p.m.
(10 Thursdays)

This popular, often repeated practical course covers the maintenance of home aquariums, including feeding, equipment, disease prevention, treatment and setting up the balanced tank. The class will tour Steinhart Aquarium. This class is taught by former Steinhart aquarist, Glenn E. Burghardt.

\$30 for individuals; \$45 for families; non-members add \$10.

Exploring the Universe

February 21-May 2: 7-9 p.m.
(11 Tuesdays)

In this introductory course in astronomy we will survey our solar system and beyond: pulsars, black holes, other galaxies plus an overview of UFO's and the search for extraterrestrial life complete our exploration. Several sessions will be held in the Morrison Planetarium sky theater and there will be one field trip. This class is taught by the Director of the Morrison Planetarium, Dr. Lee Simon.

\$30 for individuals; \$45 for families; non-members add \$10.

Bodega Bay and Birds:

February 4, 1978

Another of our popular annual trips, planned as a one-day visit to Bodega Bay to see the great variety and numbers of migrating and over-wintering waterfowl. Birding experience is not necessary, there is plenty here for all to enjoy.

Dr. John Arnold will be resident-expert. We'll leave from the Academy at 8 a.m. and return in the late afternoon.

\$15 for members, \$20 for non-members.

And don't forget the new Midweek Members' Tour

On Wednesday, January 25, our members have an opportunity to visit the **San Francisco Bay Model** in Sausalito. The model is an accurate miniature of San Francisco Bay and the Delta and is used by the Army Corps of Engineers to study tides, currents, siltation and so on. We'll be given a tour and a demonstration of their work. A chartered bus will leave the Academy at 1:00 p.m. and we'll return by 3:30. By advance reservation the minimal charge is \$5.00 and the trip is for members only.

Reservations for the Bodega Bay and Birds trip or the Midweek Members' Tour should be made by mail through the Travel Office. The enclosure of a self-addressed envelope is always appreciated.

Hawaiian Islands:

March 2-12, 1978

Charles Chesterman, Honorary Curator of Mineralogy will be your guide, and volcanoes, whales and tropical vegetation on the Islands of Maui, Hawaii and Kauai will be the focus of this very special Academy junket to Hawaii. With a specially designed itinerary, participants will have opportunities to explore and study the volcanic geology of Volcanoes National Park of Hawaii and Haleakala National Park of Maui. A day will be spent cruising the Alenuuehaha Channel between Maui, Lanai and Molokai to watch the activities of the humpback whales; snorkeling, swimming and picnicking will be part of the program for this day. On the "Garden Isle" of Kauai the plant and bird life will be of special interest. Cost: approximately \$540, plus airfare. Contact Nature Expeditions International, 599 College Avenue, Palo Alto, Ca. 94306, telephone 328-6572, or call the Academy's Travel Office for further information.

Sea of Cortez:

March 24-April 2, 1978

A cruise on the Sea of Cortez is an experience not to be missed by those who enjoy the desert environment of Baja

California. Members will fly from San Diego to Bahia de los Angeles where they will board the motorship **Poseidon** to explore the islands and coastal communities of the central desert of Lower California to Loreto and return by air from La Paz. Photographers, snorklers, and students of natural history will find an incredible variety of wildlife and beauty in this land and sea. Limited to 17. Cost: approximately \$650 from San Diego. Contact Nature Expeditions International, 599 College Avenue, Palo Alto 94306, telephone 328-6572 for further information.

New Members of the Academy

Regular Members

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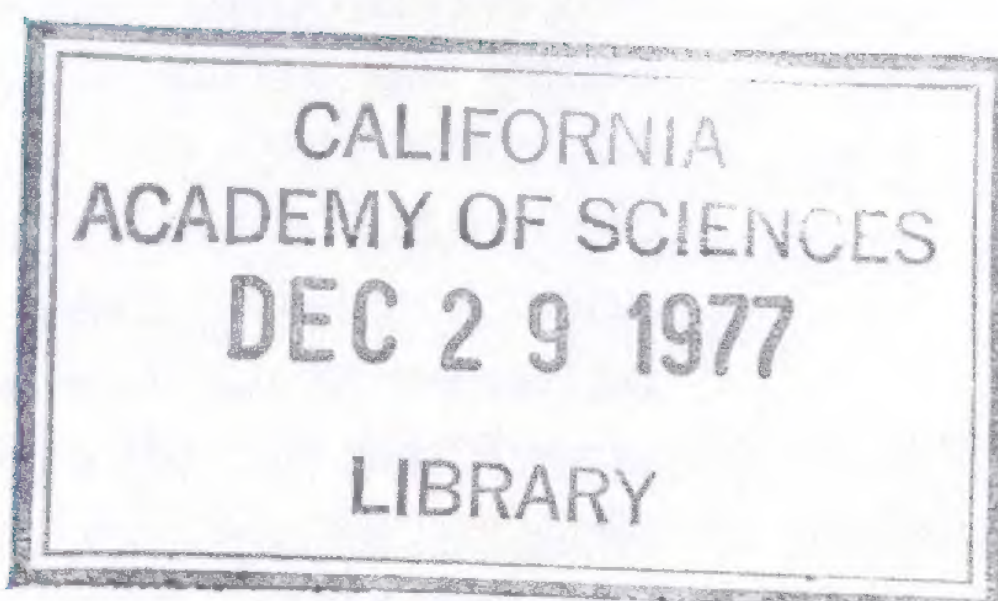
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